

AGN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE

May 11, 2004

The AIDS epidemic is a global crisis, causing the deaths of 25 million men, women, and children worldwide, while approximately 40 million individuals around the world are estimated to be living with HIV/AIDS. HIV/AIDS has been a devastating disease in the United States, with nearly half a million AIDS-related deaths since the epidemic began, and as many as 950,000 Americans currently live with HIV and over 40,000 new HIV infections occur in the U.S. each year.

Despite the availability and success of HIV treatment drugs in the United States, the best long-term hope for controlling the AIDS epidemic worldwide lies in the development of safe, effective, and affordable preventative HIV vaccines. The support of the community is essential in efforts to overcome the stigma and myths about HIV vaccine research, with the development of an effective HIV vaccine depending upon individuals and communities informing, educating, and supporting others.

Several thousand people have already volunteered to take part in HIV vaccine studies. National HIV Awareness Day is a day to recognize those involved in HIV

-M-O-R-E-

MOTION

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BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
KNABE	_____

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vaccine research and to educate Americans about the need for vaccines to prevent HIV.

The 2004 theme for National HIV Vaccine Awareness Day, "Real People, Real Progress," acknowledges the contribution of tens of thousands of study volunteers, scientists, and health professionals committed to finding a safe and effective HIV vaccine.

**I, THEREFORE MOVE THAT** the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County proclaim May 18, 2004 National HIV Vaccine Awareness Day in Los Angeles County and encourage all citizens to take part in activities and events designed to promote awareness and understanding of current HIV vaccine research efforts.

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YBB:PM:jt3(HIVVaccineDay)

Contact: Ruel Nollado, Advocacy Coordinator  
AIDS Project Los Angeles  
611 South Kingsley Drive, 4th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90005  
Ph: (213) 201-1378 Fx: (213) 201-1595  
rnollado@apla.org